

IN THE CLAIMS

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~45~~52, wherein said data structure further includes an activity structure that comprises an identity of each of said attributes and an identity of each of said events and ~~a plurality of activity attributes for said activity.~~

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~47~~16, wherein said activity attributes and said event attributes are selected from the group consisting of: time stamp, activity and item used in said process.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said item is an equipment, and wherein each of said activity attributes and each of said event attributes has an attribute value selected from the group consisting of: date and time, activity identity and device of said equipment used in said process.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~16~~7, wherein at least one of said event attributes matches at least one of said activity attributes.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said event data is linked to said device of said equipment.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~45~~52, wherein ~~step (b) said request~~ identifies said first event with a reference selected from the group consisting of: time based reference with respect to ~~said an interval of said first activity~~, direct reference to said first activity and indirect reference to said first activity.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said time based reference is with respect to all events that occur during said interval.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein said direct reference directly refers to said first activity.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein said indirect reference includes a reference to an item used by said process during said first activity.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein said data structure ~~includes an activity structure that~~ further comprises an identity of each of said attributes and each of said events ~~and a plurality of activity attributes for said activity.~~

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 27~~8~~, wherein said activity attributes and said event attributes are selected from the group consisting of: time stamp, activity and item used in said process.

30. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein said item is an equipment, and wherein each of said activity attributes and each of said event attributes has an attribute value selected from the group consisting of: date and time, activity identity and device of said equipment used in said process.

31. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 27~~8~~, wherein at least one of said event attributes matches at least one of said activity attributes.

32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said event data is linked to said device of said equipment.

33. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2652, wherein said ~~means for identifying an event~~ request identifies said first event with a reference selected from the group consisting of: time based reference with respect to said an interval of said first activity, direct reference to said first activity and indirect reference to said first activity.

34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein said time based reference is with respect to all events that occur during said interval.

35. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein said direct reference directly refers to said first activity.

36. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein said indirect reference includes a reference to an equipment used by said process during said first activity.

37-41. (Canceled)

42. (New) A computer apparatus for accessing data of a process, said apparatus comprising:

a processor and an activity framing program that responds to input data entered by a user to define a data structure,

wherein said activity framing program responds to said input data to define said data structure with a plurality of activities and events of said process, at least a first attribute of a first one of said activities, and at least one attribute of a first one of said events, wherein said first event is framed by said first activity, and

wherein said framing program further responds to a request that identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity by using said data structure to access said data of said process to retrieve event data of said first event.

43. (New) The computer apparatus of claim 42, wherein said first attribute of said first activity has an attribute value that is linked to said first event, and wherein said request additionally identifies said attribute value.

44. (New) The computer apparatus of claim 43, wherein said first attribute identifies an item used in said process and said attribute value identifies a device that is associated with said item and that is linked to said first event.

45. (New) The computer apparatus of claim 42, wherein said first activity further comprises a second attribute, and wherein said first and second attributes define start and end times of said first activity, respectively.

46. (New) The computer apparatus of claim 42, wherein said event data is stored in a database.

47. (New) The computer apparatus of claim 46, wherein said data structure is stored in one of said database and a separate memory.

48. (New) A method for using a computer to access data of a process, said method comprising:

operating said computer with an activity framing program in response to input data entered by a user to define a data structure,

wherein said activity framing program responds to said input data to define said data structure with a plurality of activities and events of said process, at least a first attribute of a first one of said activities, and at least one attribute of a

first one of said events, wherein said first event is framed by said first activity,
and

wherein said framing program further responds to a request that identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity by using said data structure to access said data of said process to retrieve event data of said first event.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein said first attribute of said first activity has an attribute value that is linked to said first event, and wherein said request additionally identifies said attribute value

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein said first attribute identifies an item and said attribute value identifies a device that is associated with said item and that is linked to said first event.

51. (New) A memory media for controlling a computer to process time series data of a process, said memory media comprising:

program instructions of an activity framing program for controlling a computer in response to input data entered by a user to define a data structure,
wherein said activity framing program responds to said input data to define said data structure with a plurality of activities and events of said process, at least a first attribute of a first one of said activities, and at least one attribute of a first one of said events, wherein said first event is framed by said first activity,
and

wherein said framing program further responds to a request that identifies said first activity and said first attribute of said first activity by using said data structure to access said data of said process to retrieve event data of said first event.

52. (New) A method for using a computer to access data of a process that is stored in a memory, said method comprising:

(a) generating an access request that is based on a data structure that comprises a plurality of activities and events of said process, one or more attributes of a first one of said activities, and one or more attributes of a first one of said events, wherein said first event is framed by said first activity; and

(b) in response to said access request, using said data structure to access said memory to retrieve event data of said first event.

53. (New) A computer apparatus for accessing time series data that is stored in a memory, said computer apparatus comprising:

a processor and a framing program that generates an access request that is based on a data structure that comprises a plurality of activities and events of said process, one or more attributes of a first one of said activities, and one or more attributes of a first one of said events, wherein said first event is framed by said first activity; and

wherein said processor in response to said access request, uses said data structure to access said memory to retrieve event data of said first event.

54. (New) A memory media for controlling a computer to access time series data of a process, said memory media comprising:

program instructions of an activity framing program for controlling a computer to generate an access request that is based on a data structure that comprises a plurality of activities and events of said process, one or more attributes of a first one of said activities, and one or more attributes of a first one of said events, wherein said first event is framed by said first activity; and

wherein said program instructions cause said computer to respond to said access request by using said data structure to access said memory to retrieve event data of said first event.